

REMARKS

Restriction requirement

In the Office Action of February 10, 2004 the Examiner asserts that the present application contains claims directed to two distinct groups of the claimed invention, Group I (claims 1-14 and 31-40), and Group II (claims 15-30). Further, the Examiner states that election is required between Species Ia (claims 8-10, 12, 13, 35-37, 39 and 40), and Species IIa (claims 17, 18, 20 and 27-29).

As required under 35 USC § 121, the Applicants provisionally restrict the application to Group I (device claims 1-14 and 31-40) and provisionally elect Species Ia (claims 8-10, 12, 13, 35-37, 39 and 40).

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required or credit overpayment to deposit account no. 12-0415. In particular, if this response is not timely filed, the Commissioner is authorized to treat this response as including a petition to extend the time period pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) requesting an extension of time of the number of months necessary to make this response timely filed and the petition fee due in connection therewith may be charged to deposit account no. 12-0415.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Post Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: ~~Mail Stop 1001-100 Amendment~~
Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

March 8, 2005

(Date of Transmission)

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(Name of Person Transmitting)

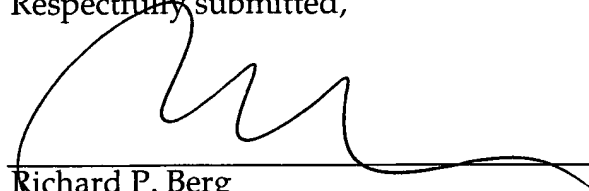


(Signature)

March 8, 2005

(Date)

Respectfully submitted,



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